

# ARIZONA ADULT PROBATION POPULATION FY 2003

July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003



May 2004

Arizona Supreme Court  
Administrative Office of the Courts  
Adult Probation Services Division

## **Arizona Adult Probation Population during Fiscal Year 2003**

The information presented in this report characterizes adults on probation statewide during fiscal year 2003. The data was drawn from county reports submitted to the Adult Probation Services Division and the Courts Services Division of the Administrative Office of the Courts. The statewide demographics presented are a direct result of extrapolating Maricopa data from the Adult Probation Enterprise Tracking System (APETS).

### ***Total Probation Population***

In fiscal year 2003, the total population of offenders under the supervision of Arizona adult probation decreased by 1.2% from 64,564 to 63,763 (includes probationers supervised by the state of Arizona but legally the responsibility of another jurisdiction). The decrease in population can be attributed to a legislative expropriation, which forced the elimination of numerous staff and significantly reduced program capacity.

### ***Standard Probation Population***

The overall number of probationers on standard supervision decreased by .02% from 60,269 to 60,255 (includes Interstate and Domestic Violence (ARS 13-3601.01) cases). While the expropriation resulted in the exclusion of report only probationers (approximately 2,300) from the total active probation population, substantial growth was seen in other population categories (e.g. indirect services). The end result was an unchanging workload for probation staff.

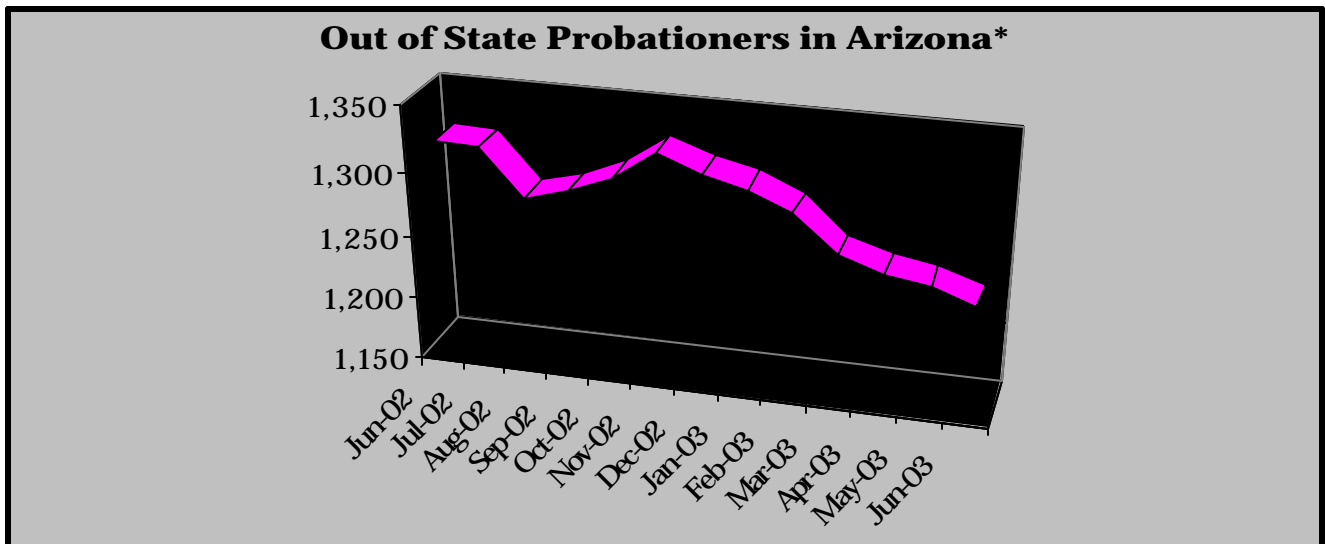
### ***Intensive Probation Population***

As a result of the legislative expropriation, the number of probationers in an intensive supervision program decreased by 18.3% from 4,295 to 3,508. Probationers in an intensive supervision program were re-evaluated and only offenders presenting the highest risk and possessing the greatest needs were retained on intensive probation.

### ***Interstate Compact Probation Population***

The Interstate Compact Unit (ISC) within the Adult Probation Services Division is responsible for the oversight of interstate compact probationers. According to the database maintained by ISC, the number of Arizona probationers supervised in other states under the Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision (compact) remained rather constant, increasing by only .9%. There were 1,857 of these probationers at the beginning of the fiscal year and 1,874 at the end of the fiscal year.

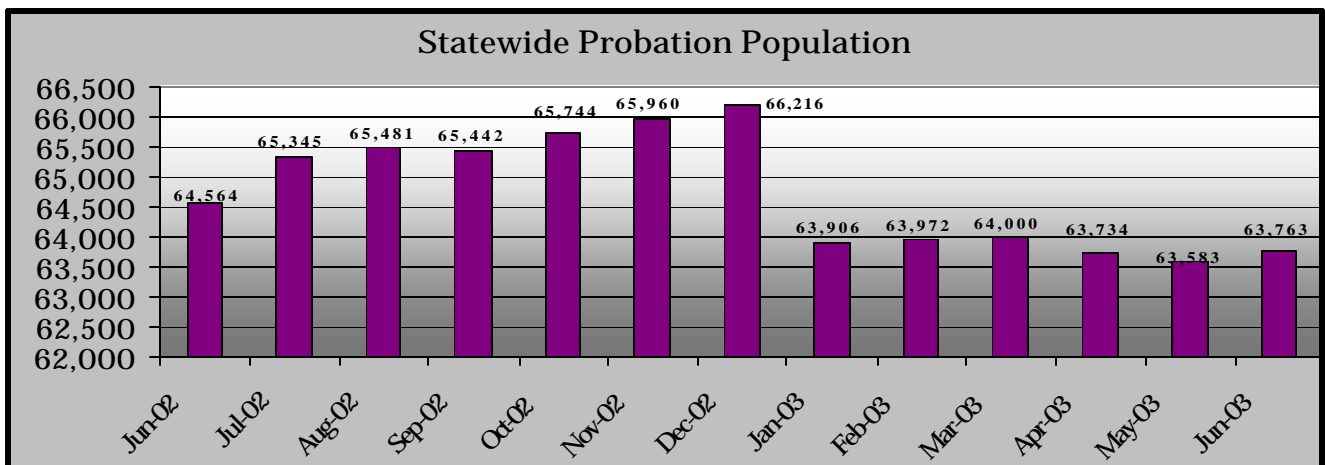
The number of probationers from other states being supervised by Arizona under the compact decreased by 6.4% from 1,320 at the beginning of the fiscal year to 1,236 at the end of the fiscal year.



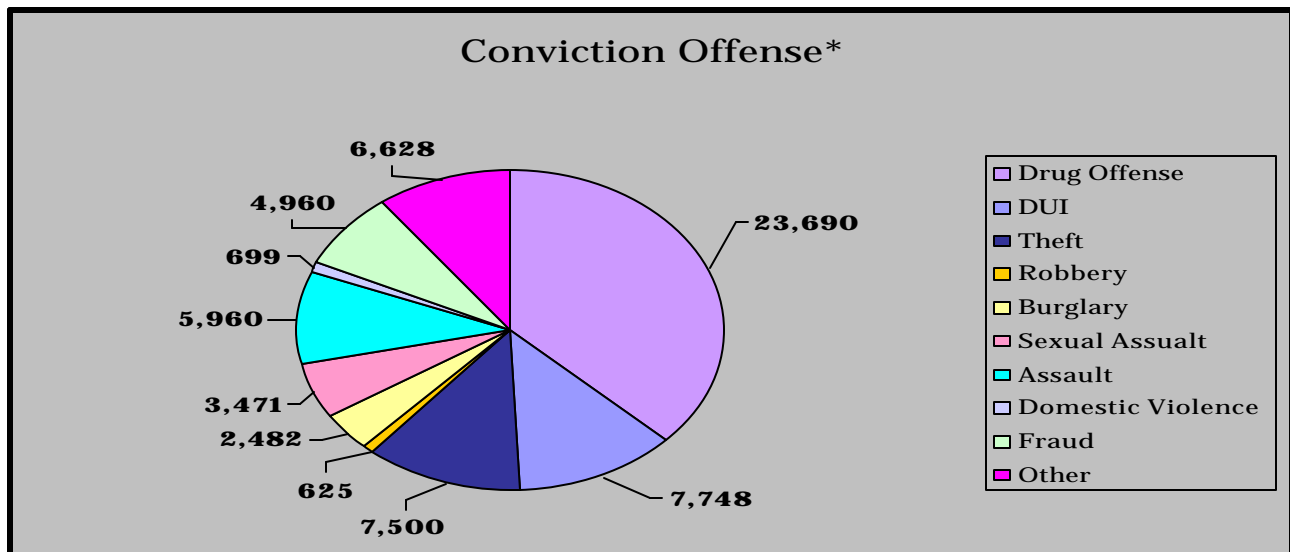
\* Data provided by ISC Unit

### Total Probation Population Demographics

During the course of the fiscal year a total of 45,145 individuals were added to probation in Arizona. Of those, 28,243 individuals were added due to new convictions. Fifty-five percent (15,577) of those with a new conviction entered probation with a sentence that *did not* include a jail or prison term, 42% (11,993) entered probation with a sentence that *did* include a term of incarceration in jail or prison, while 2% (673) entered probation on an unsupervised probation term. During the course of the same fiscal year 47,603 probationers were discharged. Of those 9,715 (20%) satisfied the ordered term of their probation, while 6,645 (14%) were revoked and incarcerated under their current sentence. Of the remaining 31,243, 78 (.01%) probationer discharges were a result of death, while 31,165 (65%) were discharged for other reasons such as: transferred to another county or state, discharged to a warrant or detainer, absconded, deported, or modified to unsupervised probation.



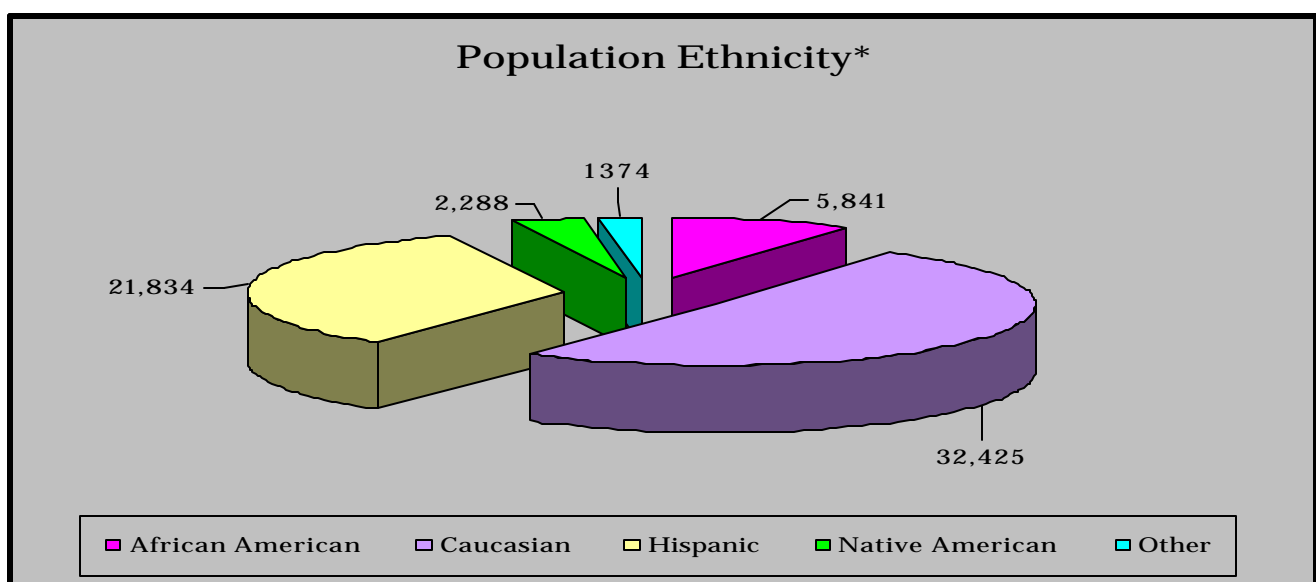
By year end the total probation population was 63,763. A predominant number (57%) of those serving a probation sentence had a felony conviction (36,345), while 8,927 (14%) were convicted of a misdemeanor; 18,491 (29%) were convicted of an undesignated offense. Approximately thirty-seven percent of the probation population had a conviction for a drug law violation, 12% were convicted for driving while intoxicated or under the influence of alcohol or drugs, and 12% were convicted for theft. Other offenses including assault, robbery, burglary, sexual assault, domestic violence, and fraud accounted for 39% of the population.



\* Data is a result of extrapolating Maricopa data acquired through APETS.

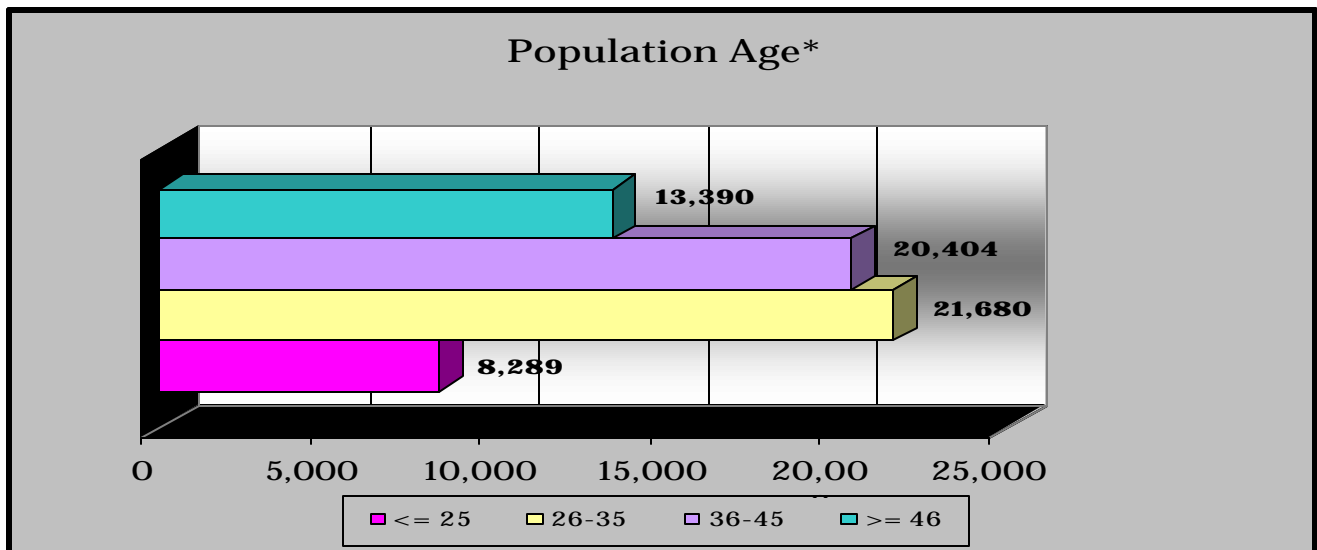
### **Total Population Characteristics**

A vast majority (81%) of the probation population was male (51,648) while females accounted for 19% (12,115) of the population. Caucasians had the largest ethnic representation at 51% followed by Hispanics at 34%. African Americans made up 9% and Native Americans comprised 4% of the total served during fiscal year 2003. Other ethnic groups including Asian/Oriental and Eastern Indian accounted for 2% of the probation population.



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Thirteen percent of the probationers under the jurisdiction of Arizona Adult Probation were 25 years of age or younger. Thirty-four percent of probationers were between the ages of 26 and 35, while 32% of probationers were between the ages of 36 and 45. Probationers 46 years of age and older accounted for 21% of the population.



\* Data is a result of extrapolating Maricopa data acquired through APETS.

### ***Expected Data Reporting Capability***

The Adult Probation Services Division of the Administrative Office of the Courts is currently in the process of implementing a statewide adult probation tracking system with the focus on increasing data collection and improving probation information transfer between counties. The Adult Probation Enterprise Tracking System (APETS) is presently in use in Maricopa County and is estimated to be statewide by the year 2007. The implementation of a statewide data tracking system will increase the ability to capture county specific data necessary for the accurate reporting of statewide statistics and population demographics.

## **Key Terms Defined**

Abscond: When a probationer has moved from the primary place of residence without permission of the probation officer or whose whereabouts are unknown.

Adult Probation: Adult Probation is a function of the judicial branch of government, and has as its primary responsibility the community-based supervision of adults convicted of criminal offenses and whose prison sentence is suspended.

Detainer: an order or a warrant to hold a probationer in custody.

Indirect Services: Cases that involve probationers who are out of county, state, country or who are serving time in the Department of Corrections.

Intensive Probation: Intensive Probation is a program established pursuant to A.R.S. § 13-913 of highly structured and closely supervised probation that emphasizes the payment of restitution.

Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision: Established in 1937, pursuant to the Crime Control Act of 1934. The compact objective is to increase community safety through the oversight and supervision of probationers establishing residence and employment in a state or jurisdiction other than where their felony sentencing occurred.

Report Only: Supervision level reserved for probationers who have successfully completed all special conditions of probation and are current on court-ordered financial assessments. Probationers are required to submit monthly written status reports. No visual contacts are required.

Undesignated Offense: An offense treated as a felony until such time as the court enters an order designating the offense a misdemeanor. If a person is convicted of any class 6 felony that does not involve the intentional or knowing infliction of serious physical injury and does not have two or more previous felony convictions, the court may enter judgment of conviction for a class 1 misdemeanor and make disposition accordingly or may place the defendant on probation in accordance with A.R.S. § 13-901 and refrain from designating the offense as a felony or misdemeanor until the probation is terminated.